

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being clearly anticipated by Glenn (US 5,231,432).

Claims 4 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 4 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection and to depend on an allowed claim.

Claims 7-19 are allowable.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 were objected to as depending on a rejected claim but allowable if rewritten.

Minor informalities were noted in claims 1, 6, 7, 13 and 18.

Claim 1 is cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 4, 6, 7, 13, 15, 18, and 20 are currently amended according to the Examiner's suggestions to correct minor informalities and provide antecedent basis. Claims 2 and 5 are amended in order to rewrite them in independent form including all the limitations of claim 1. Claims 3 and 6 are amended to render them dependent on claim 2. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

The 35 U.S.C. §112 rejections

Claims 4 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.
The amended claims 4 and 20 overcome the 35 USC 112 rejections by replacing "said at least one output beam/port" with "~~said~~ at least one output beam/port" in claim 4 and replacing "said selectable filtering sub-system" with "said selectable ~~filtering~~ switching/routing sub-system" in claim 20.

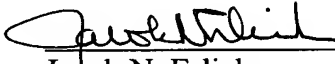
The amended claims include four independent claims. The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge the fee for the additional independent claim, \$200.00. to Deposit Account 50-1078. No additional fee is required, however the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies to or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

The following information is presented in the event that a call may be deemed desirable by the Examiner:

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Respectfully submitted,
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Date: March 4, 2005

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